

## Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARA-10 SS-15 EB-08 SSO-00 CCO-00  
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DRAFTED BY IO:CRFRANK:MR

APPROVED BY IO:CWMAYNES

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 280113 TOSEC 110040

FROM ASSISTANT SECRETARY MAYNES

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: EGEN, UNGA, ECOSOC

SUBJECT:OVERVIEW MECHANISM IN UN

REF: A) USUN 4723; B) STATE 278228; C) ISSUE NO 4 IN  
BRIEFING BOOK

REFTEL (A) GIVES CURRENT G-77 DRAFT RESOLUTION ON A UN  
OVERVIEW MECHANISM FOR GLOBAL ECONOMIC ISSUES AND  
REFTEL (B) GIVES RESULTS OF LATEST US CONSULTATIONS IN  
NEW YORK ON THE ISSUE. THE SECRETARY MIGHT WISH TO  
USE THE FOLLOWING TALKING POINTS IN HIS MEETINGS WITH  
PRESIDENT PEREZ AND OTHER VENEZUELAN OFFICIALS:

1. WHEN YOU VISITED PRESIDENT CARTER EARLIER THIS  
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YEAR, YOU PROPOSED THE CONTINUATION OF AN ECONOMIC  
DIALOGUE AMONG DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES BY  
A RESTRICTED BODY OF 30 TO 35 MEMBERS. WE FOUND  
THE IDEA ATTRACTIVE.

2. THE G-77 DRAFT RESOLUTION ON AN OVERVIEW BODY  
TO CONTINUE THE ECONOMIC DIALOGUE AMONG DEVELOPED

AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, HOWEVER, IS UNACCEPTABLE TO THE UNITED STATES IN TWO RESPECTS:

A) FIRST, IT ESTABLISHES A NEGOTIATING MANDATE FOR AN OVERVIEW BODY THAT INVITES INTERFERENCE IN ONGOING NEGOTIATIONS IN SPECIALIZED BODIES, WHICH ARE AUTONOMOUS BODIES OVER WHICH THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND ECOSOC DO NOT HAVE CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY.

B) SECOND, IT ESTABLISHES A COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TO MEET BETWEEN GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSIONS. WE BELIEVE THAT SUCH A BODY WOULD BE CONDUCIVE TO POLITICAL POSTURING AND POLEMICS AND HAS LITTLE CHANCE OF ENGAGING IN A SERIOUS AND CONSTRUCTIVE DISCUSSION OF ISSUES AND PROBLEMS AMONG DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. MOREOVER, THE REAL NEED IS TO CREATE A BODY WHICH WILL BE AN ATTRACTIVE FORUM FOR SENIOR ECONOMIC POLICY MEMBERS. A LARGE, UNWIELDY BODY SUCH AS THAT PROPOSED WOULD NOT MEET THAT CRITERION.

3. THE UNITED STATES BELIEVES IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT THE MANDATE OF THE COMMITTEE SHOULD FOCUS ON BROAD ECONOMIC PROBLEMS, THE INTER-RELATIONSHIPS AMONG PROBLEM AREAS, AND ON IDENTIFYING GAPS AND NEW ISSUES WHICH NEED ATTENTION.

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4. THE UNITED STATES PREFERS THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OR ECOSOC, MEETING IN REGULAR SESSION, SHOULD PERFORM THE OVERVIEW FUNCTION BUT THAT IT SHOULD BE ASSISTED IN THIS ROLE BY A SMALL RESTRICTED COMMITTEE THAT COULD MEET INTERSESSIONALLY TO ENGAGE IN MORE QUIET AND LESS POLEMICAL CONSULTATIONS ABOUT BROAD ECONOMIC ISSUES AND PROBLEMS OF CONCERN TO DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

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## Message Attributes

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